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Published by Osprey Media Publishing Inc. • Issue No. 4 Volume 14

Pelham NEWS

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inside

TAKING ROOT AT IN THE ORCHARD

For in the Orchard Programming for the Arts. It was a very good week. The non-profit youth arts program announced it received a \$7,000 grant from the Ontario Arts Council, and Niagara College's Many Handproject started work at its Happy Place Art Studio.

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extra



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■ **FASHION AND FLAIR:** Crossley students take environmental approach to dressmaking for upcoming show

Doing the Catwalk strut

WAYNE CAMPBELL
Pelham NEWS

A fashion class is making a fashion statement. But not the one you may expect.

E.L. Crossley Secondary School's Fashion and Creative Expressions students will hold Catwalk, a show featuring dresses and accessories with a recycling theme.

The students plan to satirize the fashion industry and encourage an environmental approach. They will include dresses made from a deck of cards, duct tape and shredded paper as well as recycled materials. At the same time, the students hope to raise money for new equipment, such as sewing machines.

Catwalk struts out at the school on Thursday, Feb. 4 at 7



E.L. Crossley Secondary School fashion students Victoria White, Jaclyn Cunningham and Holly Petrie use duct tape and recycled paper from typed reports to make a dress they will highlight with wrapping bows.

p.m. Admission is \$5. Donations are welcome.

"I wanted to have a showcase for our work and I want to do it in an environmental self-efficiency," said teacher Sheri Wilkinson.

Wilkinson grew up in a family that did not have much money. She said she watched her

mother, learning how to stretch her clothing budget by sewing and recycling.

"I wanted to pass that on to them."

While typical fashion shows often display clothing provided by local stores and fashion sellers, the class wanted to go beyond that, stressing the creative expression side of the course in this show, she said.

Funds from the event will be used to upgrade the class's equipment, including sewing machines date back to the 1960s. While still efficient, parts for repairs are hard to find.

See FASHION | Page 2

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■ FASHION

Learning the basics

FROM PAGE 1

Wilkinson said she is not interested in the high-tech digital sewing machines now, but she does have one that costs \$600. She wants basic \$100 units that will allow students to remain flexible and creative.

Fashion and Creative Expressions is a one-semester course for Grade 11 and 12 students. It instructs them on the basics of sewing, weaving, hemming and other related skills.

"Few of the students knew how to sew when they started," said Wilkinson.

The class also encourages students to take a look at fashion in general and what they wear, she said.

Student Holly Petrie said she is making a dress out of magazines using duct tape. It's called Centrefold.

It's her way of talking back to the fashion media.

"I made the dress overdone," she said, noting that it is similar to the way the media can overdo stressing certain fashions to the exclusion of others.

Clothing stores actually limit the fashions to what they sell, she explained.

The media puts "so much pressure on what we wear," she said.

She recalls the experience of buying a sweater.

"It fit well, it looked cute. I thought it would fit," she said.

"We had about 10 other girls who were wearing the same sweater," she said.

Petrie said fashion should be more about exploring your own creativity.

"You should be proud of what you wear and express yourself the way you want to," she said.

While she wouldn't suggest going to school or work in slippers or a housecoat, she said, people should be comfortable in their clothes.

"If you feel comfortable, you will have a better day, you will look happy," she said.

The fashion class has taught her how to make clothes independently.

"Why not wear a fair-trade jeans, when you can get the pattern and material and make them for much less?"

Fashion students and other students interested in modelling will wear the fashions during Catwalk.

Tickets will be available at the door.

wcampbell@wellandtribune.ca

upfront

■ 20 YEARS' SERVICE: Firefighters saluted



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Flanked by Mayor Dave Augustyn, left, and fire Chief Scott McLeod, Pelham volunteer firefighters Les Hildebrand, Rod Richards and Greg Sawchuk are honoured for 20 years of service at a town council meeting Monday. They received service medals engraved with their names from the town.

■ H2O CONSUMPTION: \$800,000 project to change 3,064 units

Town to change all water meters to radio devices

WAYNE CAMPBELL
Tribune Staff

PELHAM — Town council's general committee Monday night turned on the taps for a replacement of the municipality's 3,064 water meters.

The committee accepted Neptune Technology Group's tender for an \$800,000 project to replace within five months all existing meters with radio frequency meters.

Town treasurer Carl Pupo said radio frequency meters can be read remotely and will reduce reading time for all the meters in town to a half hour from the current 15 days.

Contract services fees are paid to an outside consultant for the service "thus the new

meter program will provide immediate return on investment."

"The water meter readings are stored in a software system which is automatically uploaded to the town's accounting system reducing the time needed to enter water meter readings," she said in a report to councillors.

Pupo said the high-tech features of the meter will detect tampering.

In Welland, during installation of meters, an installer took payments for rerouting water through meters to avoid showing use.

Pupo said the contractor will be responsible for any money fraud by its staff.

Pupo said the new meters would be able to measure system water loss.

"Town staff is confident that the enhanced radio frequency meters will provide exceptional benefits to the town's processes and procedures in water and wastewater and will aid in reducing water revenue losses," she said.

Ward 1 Coun. Jim Lane asked if there was any procedure for people who refused to accept the new meters.

Clerk administrative officer Martin Yachik said the town owns the current and the new meters. It would have access to them and the right to replace them.

Pupo said the new system would even tip off the town to loss of water from a running toilet. It's an issue that comes up regularly during disputes over water billings.

wcampbell@wellandtribune.ca

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■ KYLE DRUZINA: Named OCN A junior citizen of the year
Honoree made cents

St. Alexander Catholic School student Kyle Druzina will receive one of 12 Junior Citizen of the Year Awards from the Ontario Community Newspaper Association.

The award was announced at Monday's town council meeting by Sarah Murrell of *The Voice of Pelham*, who is joined by Mayor Dave Augustyn and Jeff English of sponsor Direct Energy, who presented Kyle with a certificate.

The mayor called Druzina an exemplary young person.

Last summer Kyle challenged St. Alexander students to save a

penny a day through the summer and donate it to Wells of Hope to build schools in Guatemala.

The students brought jars and jars of pennies to the school in September.

They filled a Wells of Hope barrel with \$4,000 worth of pennies.

The project is being continued at St. Ann Catholic School in Fenwick, where students are saving a penny a day throughout the school year.

— PelhamNEWS Staff

tempo

■ E.L. CROSSLEY: Gr. 8 students get introduction

Learning the layout of the land

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNews Staff

High school Principal Ann Harrison says Grade 8 students have a common question.

"What do I do if I get lost?"

She told them and their parents at the annual open house last day of school, during her introduction to an open house at E.L. Crossley Secondary School last Wednesday night.

"We have plenty of people ready to help you find your way," she said.

The Grade 8 students around the big four-story building on Regional Rd. 26 as well as through the daily challenges faced by a new student.

With 200 of the school's 800 students in their first year, newcomers have lots of company.

For some, that 200 may be more students than they had in their elementary school, she said.

Crossley's gym was packed with parents and Grade 8 students from private high schools, six feeder schools and from Catholic and Anglican schools in the Pelham and Wainfleet area served by Crossley.

Students, many in Grade 9, served as guides for parents and the Grade 8 students during the hour-long session which included displays in most of the school's classrooms.

Grade 9 students Berdine Breugem, Abigail Evans and Kathryn Hrycuso said the first couple days at Crossley for them were confusing.

But soon you totally know

where you are, they said.

They quickly became involved in activities such as the marching band, choir, the Interact (Junior Rotary) Club, choir, rowing, concert band, cross-country running and other sports and clubs.

The students echoed what principal Ann Harrison Gaines said during the assembly.

"Get your kids involved in something, otherwise school just becomes school," he said.

Gaines called Crossley a triple-A school — academics, athletics and arts.

Nathan Markowski, a Grade 9 student at Pelham Centre Public School, said he was a little worried about going to high school, but he was very interested in the automotive technology program because it's his passion.

His mother Beth Markowski, a Crossley graduate, said she's happy to see "they kept up the technology part."

Troy Christopher, the father of twins Brandon and Sarah Christopher, Grade 8 students at Glynn A. Green public school, said he didn't have any concerns about his children entering high school.

"I just hope they do better than I did," he said with a laugh.

ucampbell@wellandtribune.ca



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photos

Clockwise from top left: Twins Brandon and Sarah Christopher, Grade 8 students at Glynn A. Green public school with their father Troy Christopher; Nick Guetter, a Grade 8 student at Glynn A. Green public school looks at a model of the Great Wall of China made by E. L. Crossley student Erin Pye; Alisha and Nathan Markowski of Pelham Centre public school inspect the automotive technology shop; Jessica Rimar, left, and her sister Emili Rimar sample cookies from Crossley family studies teacher Trish Rybski; E. L. Crossley Grade 9 students Berdine Breugem, left, Abigail Evans and Kathryn Hrycuso help Grade 8 students from Glynn A. Green public school find their names on a welcome poster; Crossley Grade 9 student Sophie Butler shows Pelham Centre Grade 8 student Janine Vanoostrom and her parents Rosemary and Tony Vanoostrom fine points of Crossley's business program.

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PelhamNEWS

Published by PelhamNews
Osprey Media Publishing Inc.
225 East Main St., Welland, ON L3B 5P5
Tel: 905-732-2421 ext. 246 Fax: 905-732-3660
Circulation: 1,664-318-5062
e-mail: pelhamnews@wellandtel.com.ca
advertising & general inquiries: karen@ospreymedia.ca
Karen Yagman

PUBLISHER, GENERAL MANAGER
Wayne Campbell, editor

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perspective



Wayne Campbell
EDITOR

Double trouble

Residents along the north end of Hais St. may like double-doubles. However, they don't like the double trouble that has recently expanded Tim Hortons.

In a letter to town council this week, they complained about employees of Tim Hortons and the Target filling the neighbouring street because of inadequate parking for the business sites.

"This is causing a very dangerous situation for the residents on a daily basis, as the employee vehicles are often parked on both sides of the driveways, as well as both sides of the street," they wrote to town council.

Ward 2 Coun. Sharon Cook called the situation "appalling" with people unable to safely get in or out of their driveways.

Council referred the letter to town staff for a report and recommendations. Ward 3 Coun. John Durley suggested sitting down with the business owners to come up with a solution. Unfortunately, parking requirements are not limited to the busy Hais St. and Regional Rd. 20 intersection. Employees have difficulty finding parking in other commercial areas.

Oddly, 70% of Pelham residents who work commute out of town. They must find parking.

Meanwhile, those who provide services in Pelham, such as coffee and retail workers, often commute into town.

Residents want the convenience of the services and the commercial property tax. However they resent the cars of those who provide it.

The answer is cooperation. Employers should provide more space on sites. Employees who must park on a street could spread out and ensure views from driveways aren't blocked. A short walk is healthy. And residents could remember those employees provide services to them.

comment

Aiming to revitalize downtown Fenwick

I have some more news regarding the revitalization of Fenwick's downtown.

You will recall that in late 2009 the town applied for funding from the federal and provincial government to revitalize both Fonthill's and Fenwick's downtowns.

The \$7.1-million application envisioned major infrastructure improvements such as wastewater and storm sewer improvements; burying of hydro cables; road improvements; and proper streetscaping — better parking, brick-work, decorative lampposts, benches and planters.

In early 2010 we were successful in achieving two-thirds funding to revitalize downtown Fonthill. Those designs are in the final stages and work will be starting this spring.

However, the improvements for Fenwick were deemed a second project and ineligible for that funding.

But, in December the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario announced a second "intake" for the Community Adjustment



Dave Augustyn
MAYORALVIEW

Fund. To be eligible for funding, the projects must be for community organizations, small- to medium-sized businesses, or municipalities and complete by March 31, 2011.

While the \$12.8-million fund is available for business to expand production capacity, technology, or access to markets, it also supports the revitalization and development of downtown core areas.

On Jan. 12, 2010, at a special council meeting last week, the town applied for \$2.3 million of funding from the federal government for the revitalization of Fenwick's downtown.

The \$2.7-million project would provide help "calm" traffic by creating urban design features — like pedestrian crossing treatments or gateways — that work with the road design to slow traffic.

The works would help to visually distinguish the downtown.

town core, provide decorative roadway and pedestrian lighting to improve safety, and widen sidewalks to help make it more accessible.

What about the flagpole at the intersection of Maple St. and Canboro Rd.? People seem to have strong feelings about what to do with the historic structure. Some suggest the status quo. Others envision the flagpole in the middle of a roundabout which will help reduced speeds and enhance the downtown core.

The town, via an engineering consultant, has already started formulating the design for downtown Fenwick. Rest assured, you will have a chance to comment as the present design concepts for a revitalized downtown.

If you would like to support the town's application, please write to: Community Adjustment Fund, 145 Queen St. and Floor, Toronto, MSC 2N7, and reference the Town of Pelham's application to Revitalize Downtown Fenwick. You may want to encourage our MP, Dean Allison, to continue to invest in Fonthill, at info@deanallison.ca.

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Letter to the editor

Hold on to your wallets

Ladies and gentlemen of Pelham, it's time to hold on to your purses and wallets.

Town council is once again deliberating the Pelham annual budget.

And while the annual tax increases over the past few years have been under 5%, the compound increase over the past six years is 57.2%.

Council can argue that recent increases have been modest, but these are on top of previous double-digit increases

in 2004 (14.8%) and 2005 (16.8%).

To put that into perspective, the compound six-year property tax increase including regional, school, and town components was only 26.75%.

Why is the six-year compound Pelham tax increase so much more than the double that of our overall Niagara tax increase?

I have one theory — perhaps it's the continuing saga of the irresponsible purchase of the 32 acres at Hwy 20 and Rice Rd. by the previous council. And though the current

council voted to sell this property almost two years ago, we continue to figure out how to dole it off to the tune of \$771,778 in interest to the end of 2009.

Ask your councilors what action, if any, has been taken to remove this tax burden.

It has been going on and even likely to increase this year to be six more in line with the region's six-year compound tax increase. And wouldn't that be nice in these economic times.

Terry Wade
Fonthill

Carrying a torch

Dec. 21, 2009 is a day that will be remembered by all in the town of Pelham.

Thousands of people lined the streets of Pelham to witness the Olympic flame Torch Run as the Olympic flame passed through.

Thanks to the hard work of a dedicated committee consisting of Gayle Baljees-Chataway, April Robert, Vickie VanRavenswaay, Sharon Cook, Cathy Berkhour-Bosse and Jean Bancroft from the PBA and Gina Dineen and Fred Fisher, a very successful celebration of the Olympic torch and an equally, if not superior, community gathering was hosted.



John Durley
OPINION

The day started with a skills competition at the Pelham arena featuring a Pelham Minor Hockey Association, followed by a colourful pageant of skating fitness presented by several members of the Pelham Figure Skating Club.

A pre-torch run warm-up parade was presented to the community featuring many youth groups, including Pelham Minor Hockey Association, Pelham Figure Skating Club members, Pelham Soccer Club members, athletic students from E.L. Crossley, the army cadets, the E.L. Crossley marching band and Don Cottier, president of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 613 and a torchbearer for the 1998 Canadian Commonwealth Games.

The Olympic flame was greeted with much enthusiasm and energy as 15 torchbearers relayed the flame on its journey from Quaker Rd. to Regional Rd. 20. An address by the mayor was made at the Regional Rd. 20 site on the corner of Regional Rd. 20 and St. George St. where the torch was lit and a focal point where folks gathered.

After the torch passed through town, a community celebration was convened at Peace Park featuring the beautiful voices of The Trebleaires, the A.K. Wigg school children's choir and Sodas.

The PBA made the final drawing to announce winners of its Christmas in Pelham promotion, cake and hot chocolate was served to the thousands of people who gathered around to enjoy the celebration and meet the torch bearers and see, up close, the actual torches used in the event.

Special thanks to the committee for their hard work, to staff who went the extra mile to help set up and take down all of amenities and to Sobeys for the delicious and beautifully decorated cake.

See DURLEY | Page 5

■ 105.7 FM EZ ROCK: St. Alexander gets salute on radio



St. Alexander Catholic School's Grade 4 classes received a salute from 105.7 FM EZ Rock with lunch served by Jack Peets and Lori Love, the morning show team. Education assistant Brenda Hicks entered the school into the radio station's contest. "They are great kids," she said. "They always say thank you." They are always willing to help each other and others outside the school. In addition to the radio station staff, the visit included Chilly, the mascot from Rink on the Brink at Niagara Falls.

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photos

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■ REAL ESTATE
Getting linked in

FROM PAGE 5

How visible is the Pelham community on the internet? Take the time to decide for yourself.

The Town of Pelham in conjunction with the Pelham Chamber of Commerce and the Pelham Business Association provides a business directory within the town's website, www.pelham.ca.

It is important to always remember that the image we project as a community fundamentally impacts our long-term potential for economic growth.

I for one, have grown weary of the descriptive — “come to Pelham, Niagara’s hidden gem.” Let’s all work on polishing up our gem instead.

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EXCERPT

PUBLISHED PRINCIPAL: Megan Milani pressing pupils to read

Starting a new chapter

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Megan Milani has a passion for teaching students to read.

The energetic principal of E.W. Farr Memorial School in Fenwick believes anyone can learn to read.

"If children have the ability to converse, they have the ability to read," she said during an interview about her book *The Three Habits of Highly Successful Reading Teachers*.

Now she wants to bring the book from Pembroke Publish-

ers to the attention of parents. "If parents have this information and take five minutes a day it will be extremely helpful to them," she said.

Before Milani became a vice-principal and then principal, she was a reading specialist and reading resource teacher. During those years she sought the most efficient and effective way to teach reading.

Gradually she developed the LIFE (Literacy is for Everyone) program. She used it and polished it first as a teacher and most recently during her two

years as E.W. Farr's principal. The LIFE techniques became the basis of *The Habits of Highly Successful Reading Teachers* book.

It goes beyond a traditional flash-card approach where children recognize words as they are shown to them. LIFE brings in sound language, pronunciation, that is, auditory memory in addition to sight.

The program has three parts said Milani. The first is to believe.

See READING | Page 20

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Nathaniel Macdonald, Grade 3 student at E.W. Farr Memorial School, reads with principal Megan Milani, author of *The 3 Habits of Highly Successful Reading Teachers*.

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■ IN THE ORCHARD: College's Many Hands project blossoming as funds harvested

Good things taking root

WAYNE CAMPBELL

PelhamNEWS Staff

For in the Orchard Programming for the Arts, it's been a good week.

Last Wednesday afternoon, the non-profit youth arts program announced it received a \$7,000 grant from the Ontario Arts Council.

It will help finance for six workshops by three local artists and a program to train young artists to recycle materials donated to the Salvation Army into art and fashion items.

"This grant will allow ITO to partner with the Salvation Army to begin the first recycled art collective here in Niagara," said executive director Angie Geiss.

The new program is called ART2.

Last Wednesday morning, In the Orchard's base at The Happy Place Art Studio was crawling with students and staff from Niagara College who are preparing for the school's next Many Hands Project.

For 13 years, the college's Many Hands Project has assisted non-profit groups

across the region, including The Hope Centre in Welland last year, the Women's Resource Centre in Beamsville in 2006 and Niagara Support Services in 2002.

Now, the Niagara College renovation technician construction program will overhaul the interior and exterior of the art studio's often-altered downtown Fonthill building. Meanwhile event management students will arrange for volunteers, sponsors and fundraising events for a project that could total \$30,000.

Canadian Tire Financial Services is a lead sponsor, as it has been for 13 years, putting \$5,000 toward the project.

In the Orchard focuses on creating and providing innovative programs for young people, including at-risk youth, in communities surrounding Fonthill.

Renovation work includes extending and upgrading washroom facilities, rebuilding a deck, replacing doors and interior structural enhancement to the art display and program activity areas.

See IN THE ORCHARD | Page 9



WAYNE CAMPBELL, Staff Photo

Niagara College renovation technician student Aaron Parkinson, program co-ordinator Colin Robinson and Angie Geiss, executive director of In the Orchard Programming for the Arts and owner of The Happy Place Art Studio, are preparing the Fonthill studio for a renovation being done through Niagara College's 2010 Many Hands Project.

- At least 1 in 3 people could still get H1N1.

- Half of those in hospital with H1N1 have been under 24 years old.

- Flu season continues until April.

- 1 in 5 people hospitalized with H1N1 have ended up in intensive care and/or on ventilators.

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■ IN THE ORCHARD

College students organizing many fundraisers

FROM PAGE 8

Geiss thanked Niagara College for supporting the program and improving facilities to deliver in The Orchard Programs.

"This is bringing very exciting changes for FIO," she said.

Mayor Dave Augustyn praised the Many Hands Project for taking on the work which will allow in The Orchard to continue to improve the services it provides to youth. The renovations, he said, are timely in light of a revitalization project about to begin downtown Fonthill. It will include a community improvement plan to encourage upgrading of buildings.

Colin Robinson, college renovation technician program co-ordinator, said 24 students will be involved in the program. They will work each Thursday for 15 weeks, wrapping up with the official Many Hands Day on April 15.

For the day, students will have a chance to go into the community to talk to suppliers, get into the lumber yards and shake hands with contractors.¹ He called in the Orchard's facility an old building but sound.

Gary Dolch, with the construction design technician program, said his students will help out with structural engineering drawings for such things as fire barriers.

Event management students will organize fundraising events which include:

- Dance the Night Away on Saturday, Feb. 6, from 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Club Italia in Niagara Falls. Tickets \$25.

- Taste the World. Sample flavours from around the world. Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Feasibilities Conference Centre in Welland, from 6 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

- Fashion in the Falls, a charity fashion show, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Best Western Plus in Thorold Inn and Suites Conference Centre in London.

- Wild West Whodunit! Murder Mystery, on Saturday, March 13, at the Beechwood Golf & Country Club in Niagara Falls, from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$45.

Geiss said the renovations will tie in with projects underway through the Ontario Arts Council grants.

Workshops and instruction programs by textile and design artists Suzie Devor, Mélanie VanderZeev and Azra Momtin will conclude with a show of art work, textile and other recycled items by the students in April.

In the Orchard will be able to show the public the results of the Many Hands Project, she said.

For more information on the Many Hands initiative, visit NiagaraCollege.ca/ManyHands or call 905-641-2252 ext. 6404.

ucampbell@wellandtribune.ca

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

In the Orchard executive director Angie Geiss, Adrienne Berg, E.L. Crossley co-ordinator Matt Hennessy, volunteer Milica Petkovic and Axel Kinnear, also a Crossley co-ordinator.



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■ localbrief

HOSPITAL DRAW TICKETS REMAIN

Tickets are still available for the Tim Horton's Elimination Draw for the Welland Hospital Foundation.

On Wednesday, Jan. 27, at the Croatian National Home people have a chance to win a share of \$3,000, door prizes and, for those

who purchased tickets early, an opportunity to win one of 14 coffee-lover gift packs with coffee, even more coffee and more.

A total of 1250 tickets remain sold at a cost of \$65 each. The hall can accommodate 300 people, symposium at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. For tickets call 905-378-4647 ext. 3235.

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For Charity 2010

Nothing to lose?

New to the fitness challenge this year is the introduction of Category 2, for participants whose goal is not weight loss, but strength and cardio gains. This selection is done on an individual basis so that Category 1 participants (weight loss focus) and Category 2 participants can be on the same team.

Simply indicate on your forms which category you prefer.

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Cost per team is **\$1,000** which covers

- Membership fees for the 12 weeks
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- Touchdown Banquet
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- Challenge runs Feb. 1 - APRIL 25, 2010

REGISTRATION Deadline is JANUARY 22, 2010

For more information on how your company can register a team contact: Tina Lanzillotta @ 905-732-2414 ext. 7 or email tribunefitnesschallenge@gmail.com

Charities win the following cash prizes:

- \$2,500 First Prize • \$1,000 Second Prize • \$500 Third Prize • \$100 Each for all other teams

Y
NIAGARA CENTRE

Looking beyond the Blue Box



Brian Baty

REGIONALVIEW

are well read and well received and those supportive materials will continue.

A positive change is taking place after May 1 this year. If your blue box or grey box is damaged, a replacement for it will be available at no cost. In addition the new containers are approximately 30% larger than the existing ones.

I have been asked to bring to the next waste management steering committee samples of protective nets that prevent materials from escaping from the boxes when they are at the roadside.

If we work then we should consider providing them to home owners or promoting their sale at reasonable prices in local stores.

As with most items, costs are rising so blue box and grey boxes will rise from \$5 to \$6. Thirty percent of the cost will rise from \$75 to \$90 and tipping fees, if you transport materials to the landfill site, will rise from \$80 to \$90. Overall, the total cost for curbside service is about \$150 per household per year.

That includes the costs of large item collection, household waste collection, leaf and branch collection and annual Christmas tree pickup. Compared to the cost of hiring a private truck for a barn or cellar cleanup, I think that is a reasonable expenditure. You may not know but your efforts to divert waste to the blue boxes and grey boxes saves you money.

In 2010 Waste Division Ontario will provide \$2,324,880 based on 38% of the actual operating costs in 2009 (\$6,077,111). As regions implement "best practice" procedures, that share will rise so we are encouraged environmentally and financially to do more to divert waste from landfill sites. Consideration is being given to the inclusion of new items to the blue boxes this year.

Program considerations for 2010 include weekly collection at multi-residential sites and the collection of empty paint cans and aerosol containers. More on that as decisions are finalized later this year.

Brian Baty is a regional councillor for Pelham and is a member of the waste management steering committee and the public works committee.

brian.baty@niagararegion.ca

At the first public works committee meeting in 2010 we received a report on the Blue Box program and examined ways to improve waste diversion.

The 2010 plans are short-term as there are longer term possibilities based on the future awarding of the new waste collection contracts for 2011 and beyond.

Briefly put, we have asked for a wide variety of options for the next collection contract: what about weekly collection of blue and grey boxes; what about one side of the road collection; that would move a few kilometres what about waste (garbage) collection every two weeks to encourage people to put the "ucky stuff" out in the green bin instead of the garbage; what about asking the public to put their containers neatly after collection rather than throwing them to the ground; what about putting garbage in a clear container so that only containers with real garbage get collected and not

those containing recyclables and compostables? And the list goes on.

Costs and benefits will determine the choices of actions once the bids are in for the new collection contracts.

I expect full and frequent discussions with taxpayers before the final choices are made.

In the meantime, there are expected changes that will affect your blue box program in 2010.

Firstly, you can expect ongoing media releases urging citizens to recycle using the blue and grey boxes. We hope to have 62% waste diverted by 2012 and seem to be stuck at about the 43% level despite ongoing social marketing.

Citizens tell me that the waste collection calendar and waste collection newsletters

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sports



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Teams from Pelham, Alabama, received a taste of outdoor hockey in Fenwick during the 11th annual Silver Stick A/E International finals. Host Pelham teams invited them to an afternoon of hockey and tobogganning as a break from the tournament schedule of indoor hockey.



■ COUNCIL: Pelham reaches 40 years

Charter Building wins contract for town hall addition

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS/Staff

Town council began its 40th anniversary year by meeting for the last time in its current council chambers Monday.

Mayor Dave Augustyn welcomed councillors and the public to the beginning of the town's 40th year for the town and the region. He mentioned the significance of the timing of the meeting.

The Town of Pelham was formed, along with 11 other lower-tier municipalities, with the creation of the Niagara Region in 1970.

Before that it was the Township of Pelham with stand alone villages of Fenwick and Fonthill.

Later this Monday's meeting in council chambers awarded a \$327,698 tender of Charter Building Co. for an expansion of the town hall.

Work is expected to begin within a week.

Until it is completed in 12 weeks about the end of March, the town will hold its regular, committee and public meetings at Pelham Fire Station No. 1 on Regional Rd. 20 in Fonthill.

During the expansion crews will move the northern half of the town hall to a municipal parking lot.

They will filling in an exit driveway from the rear parking lot and reroute traffic through the municipal parking lot.

In addition to a new council chambers, the addition will include a committee room, the mayor's office and the office for the chief administrative officer.

The mayor's and CAO's current offices on the second floor will go to new and redistributed staff.

The expanded council chambers will include wiring for computer projectors and laptops as well as for improved sound systems.

New equipment, furnishings and other items for offices and council chambers are expected to cost \$20,000.

Nine companies bid on the construction contract. Charter Building had the lowest. The highest was \$377,670.

That was below the town's budget of \$345,000 for the construction, said CAO Martin Yamich in his report.

The town received a federal Community Adjustment Fund grant which covers most of the cost of the project.

The original plan was to put the expansion on the second floor of the town hall.

However, it was determined the building could not support a second-story addition.

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GASTON

■ hockeybrief

DRAGONS TAME THUNDER

Tim Horlone Red Dragons squared off against the White Thunder in a hard fought defensive battle on Sunday, Jan. 17.

Ethan Doherty led his team to a 2-1 victory in net for the Thunder.

Kassidy Moore made some key saves in

net for the Dragons to keep the score close.

The Phairick opened the scoring with 27.5 seconds left in the first period.

Daniel Guitard scored an unbelievable goal in the third period for the Dragons to tie the game only to have Ben Bonsteel score the game winner at 2:48 of the

third.

Great game by all players.

Game statistics were as follows:
Dragons: Tim Horlone (1 goal), Nolan
Kileen (Assist), Thunder: Ty Phairick (1
goal), Ben Bonsteel (1 goal), Lucas
Gaudet (1 assist), Tommy Leavens (1
assist).



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AT THE LIBRARY

'CRIME TIME' MONTHLY AUTHOR EVENT: Toronto author Jill Edmondson reads from her debut novel *Blood and Groom* on Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. Books for sale and signing. Free.

REDUCING STRESS FOR A HEALTHY BRAIN: Focus is on how stress impacts the brain and strategies to lower your risk of damage and to promote overall brain health at any age. Presented by the Alzheimer Society. Free but please register ahead. Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 6 p.m.

FREE TAX & FINANCIAL INFO SESSION: Learn some tax sav-

ing techniques and make sure your nest egg is protected. A certified financial planner will go over tax planning and financial advice for your family. Monday, Feb. 1, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Free but please register ahead.

PHILOSOPHERS' CAFÉ: Corporate Social Responsibility: A Win-Win Situation? Owners of The Wildflower, Café on Main, Nature's Corner, and de la Terre join Dr. Chelsea Willness to talk about the influence of social responsibility on stakeholders such as customers and potential employees. Takes place Tuesday, Feb. 2, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is \$1. Please register ahead.

AROUND TOWN

SATURDAY, JAN. 23

PELHAM MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION will hold a registration day at Pelham Arena from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is open for all divisions, from T-ball to midget. Forms can be downloaded from www.pmba.ca and brought to the arena, or can be mailed to the address indicated. Registration will remain open until all divisions are filled.

SUNDAY, JAN. 24

CANADIAN AUTHORS ASSOCIATION (NIAGARA BRANCH) meets from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fiction group at the home of Emily Arsenault, 125 Lake St., St. Catharines. During each meeting, two members present their fiction to the group for critique and discussion. Visitors are welcome for three meetings before they are expected to become

Canadian Authors members. Call Emily Arsenault at 905-346-3073 for more information.

MONDAY, JAN. 25

PELHAM HORTICULTURE SOCIETY general meeting, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Pelham Public Library, Fonthill. Get your gardening juices flowing with Jackie Lynch of Friends of Nature presenting Flower Power 2010. Refreshments. New members and guests welcome!

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27

WELLAND CAMERA CLUB has a special presentation this evening by Heather Halfyard — "New York City". Our Len Trumble Image Competition results will also be shown. A great evening for photography and socializing. Our new



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starting time is 7:30 p.m. at Wesley United Church, 244 First Ave. N. For info call Larry Lanigan at 905-892-4699.

THE FRIENDS OF SHORT HILLS PARK is hosting a night-time walk in the woods for members. Meet at the St. John Outdoor Education Centre on Roland Rd. for 7 p.m. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. Hopefully the coyotes will be talking to us. For info call Anne Kubu at 905-685-4965.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3

ST. CATHARINES NEWCOMERS CLUB invites women of all ages new to the Niagara area to join us at the Heidehof, 600 Lake St., St. Catharines at 7:30 p.m. Call Pat at 905-937-9889 or Gwen at 905-641-9816

E-mail submissions to pelhamnews@wellandtribune.ca

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